



Health MILESTONES 2005

*David N. Sundwall, M.D. Executive Director
Dr. A. Richard Melton, Deputy Director
Allen Korhonen, Deputy Director*

Get Active Utah!

January 1, 2005 - Check Your Health (UDOH, IHC, KUTV partnership) and the Utah Summer Games, along with Associated Foods and the Utah AARP as event sponsors, began the "Get Active, Utah!" Fitness Challenge on January 1, 2005. The goal is to reach thousands of Utahns who are trying to make a lifestyle change and offer them an incentive to achieve their goal. The Challenge appears to be a hit. Since its start, over 1,500 people - an average of about 25 people per day - have signed up to take the Challenge at www.utahwalks.org. Over 500,000 miles have been logged, and participants have requested over 500 Nutrition and Activity Trackers from Check Your Health.

EMS Designates Logan Regional Hospital as a Level III Trauma Center

January 1, 2005 - The Utah Department of Health (UDOH) Bureau of Emergency Medical Services Trauma Program has designated Logan Regional Hospital in Cache County as the first Level III Trauma Center in the state.

Registry of Stillbirth Events (ROSE) Ready for Use Statewide

January 2, 2005 - Doctors can now register and submit stillbirths to the Office of Vital Records and Statistics (OVRs) online using the new Web based stillbirth program, ROSE. Since January 2000, birth registration in Utah has been completed electronically making birth registration a paperless system. OVRs staff are currently working on a web based death registration system.

CHIP Unveils Spanish TV Ad

January 10, 2005 - For the first time, the Utah Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) reached out to Spanish-speaking audiences using a Spanish TV ad. The ad, promoting CHIP open enrollment, aired on Univision through January 24, 2005.

Office of Health Care Statistics Provides Summary Report to U.S. Congress

January 18, 2005 - The Office of Health Care Statistics' (OHCS) report to the CMS Office of Legislation contained a comprehensive summary of Primary Care Network (PCN) evaluations conducted by the office as of January 2005. OHCS has conducted (or co-sponsored) at least eight separate evaluations of PCN, helping provide policymakers with important information about the health of PCN enrollees. CMS provided the summary report to the Congressional Research Service in response to a Congressional inquiry during former-Governor Michael Leavitt's confirmation hearings in Washington D.C. A copy of the report can be found at: <http://health.utah.gov/hda/report/summaryEvaluations.pdf>

Utah Pregnancy Data Book Published

January 2005 - The Utah Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) program has published their first data book using 2000-2001 PRAMS data. PRAMS is an ongoing, population-based, risk factor surveillance system designed to identify and monitor selected maternal experiences and behaviors that occur before, during and after pregnancy as well as the

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child's early infancy experience. The publication details 39 maternal child health indicators from the PRAMS questionnaire and is available online at:

<http://health.utah.gov/rhp/pdf/PRAMS%20Data%20Book.pdf>

CHIP has Covered 80,000 Utah Kids

February 1, 2005 – Since it began in 1998, Utah Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) has provided health insurance for more than 80,000 Utah kids. CHIP covers well-child exams, immunizations, doctor visits, hospital and emergency care, dental care and prescriptions.

Utah Department of Health begins Management Training Program

February 15, 2005 - The UDOH, Training and Education Center began a management training program in February of 2005. The Program will consist of 12 classes over the next two years for all UDOH managers and supervisors. The training includes topics such as personnel and business management. The goals of this series are to increase knowledge of and ability to apply UDOH policies and procedures, improve understanding of management roles and responsibilities and to enhance leadership and management skills. Since inception, 230 UDOH managers received training every 8 weeks and will continue to do so over the next 24 months.

Utah Goes Red to Educate Women about Heart Disease and Stroke

February 2005 - The Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Program and ten of its 12 local health department partners distribute 4,000 red dress pins and generated nearly one million media impressions during February's Go Red for Women/Wear Red Day activities. Events included holding luncheons to educate women about their special risk for heart disease and stroke; distributing a fact sheet about Utah women, heart disease, and stroke at health fairs, community events, and worksites; offering heart health related screenings and encouraging women to wear red to raise awareness.

Legislature Expands CHIP

March 2, 2005 – The Utah State Legislature appropriated 3.3 million additional dollars to the Utah Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). This funding will allow CHIP to cover an additional 12,000 children, increasing the average enrollment to 40,000 children.

Second Annual Stroke Symposium Convenes in Salt Lake City

March 5, 2005 - The Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Program hosted the Second Annual Stroke Symposium in Utah on March 5, 2005 in Salt Lake City. Among those in attendance were neurologists, emergency room doctors, ER nurse managers, medical directors, family practice physicians, EMS personnel and cardiologists. This meeting brought together personnel to discuss ways to improve the care of stroke patients in our community.

Mental Health Prescription Program Improving Health Care for Utah Medicaid Recipients

March 15, 2005 - A UDOH program is making a difference for Utahns with mental health problems. Over the past 12 months, the UDOH's Behavioral Pharmacy Management Program (BPMP) has reviewed Medicaid mental health pharmacy claims for drugs to treat mental health conditions. BPMP has worked with hundreds of providers each month and has decreased unnecessary mental health prescriptions for both adults and children.

External Quality Review Organization Contract Established

March 23, 2005 - Health Services Advisory Group, Inc., an external quality review organization (EQRO), has signed and returned a three-year contract with the Division of Health Care

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Financing (DHCF). Once the contract is fully executed, DHCF will be in compliance with the Federal regulation, 42 CFR 438 Subpart E, that requires states to contract with an EQRO to conduct annual review activities of Medicaid's two physical health plans and nine Prepaid Mental Health Plans.

Office of Vital Records and Statistics Turns 100

March 9, 2005 - Utah has been recording births and deaths for 100 years. The Office of Vital Records and Statistics (OVRs) marked its 100-year anniversary with a celebration at the UDOH. The celebration highlighted changes in vital records over the past hundred years as well as the impact that statistical information collected by vital records has had at both a local and national level. The Office also presented a Heritage Birth Certificate, signed by Governor Jon M. Huntsman Jr. to some Utah residents who, like Vital Records, reached centenarian status this year.

Utah Diabetes Practice Recommendations (UDPR) Released

March 29, 2005 – The Diabetes Prevention and Control Program (DPCP) has published recommendations detailing the diagnosis and treatment of gestational diabetes and the management of pre-existing diabetes during pregnancy. The UDPR is part of an ongoing effort to improve the care of individuals with diabetes, minimize the risk of diabetes complications and reduce risk factors for development of diabetes. The UDPR contain algorithms for testing, diagnosing and treating diabetes to targets during pregnancy, recommendations for follow-up and resources for diabetes education. The UDPR is available on the Web at: www.health.utah.gov/diabetes.

IBIS Query System Workbook Created

March 2005 - An IBIS Query System Workbook has been made to help users navigate the system to get what they need. The Utah Indicator-Based Information System for Public Health (IBIS-PH) Web site is designed to provide quick and easy access to information for informed public health policy development and decision-making. It provides important information on the population characteristics, health status, health determinants, and health care systems in Utah. The IBIS Query System allows users to query public health data sets directly. The workbook is available on the Web at: <http://health.utah.gov/ibisq/workbook.pdf>

UDOH Bureau of EMS Awards Grant Money to Utah EMS Providers

March 2005 - The UDOH Bureau of Emergency Medical Services recently awarded for FY2006 a total of \$1,673,723 in grant money to Utah emergency medical service providers. \$800,000 of the grant money was awarded in per capita grants; \$873,723 awarded in competitive grants and there will be \$20,000 of grant money set aside for emergency interim grants.

Dog Bite Alert

April 7, 2005 - The Utah Department of Health issued a warning about a health threat rarely talked about in Utah – dog bites. UDOH data show that every year more than 1,900 Utahns are attacked by dogs and hurt seriously enough to need emergency room treatment, and 10 of those victims are hospitalized. Nearly one in five victims is an infant or child age nine or younger. The Department urged parents to talk with their children about how to behave around dogs to prevent injury.

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Public Invited to Enjoy A Breath of Fresh Air at the Second Annual Smoke-Free Salt Lake City Day

April 8th, 2005 - The Utah Department of Health (UDOH) invited the public to go downtown for a breath of fresh air as they embarked on a tour of smoke-free establishments with Mayor Rocky Anderson. Mayor Anderson once again declared April 8 as Smoke-Free Salt Lake City Day. Community partners included KUTV Channel 2, Gastronomy, The Red Door, Circle Lounge, The Tavernacle, W Lounge and Sahara Construction.

Utah Department of Health Introduces Extension of “I Did It!” Campaign

April 11th, 2005 - Quitting smoking isn't easy. And it's particularly difficult without a support system to help you through those tough times, the little moments when a minor temptation may bring back a bad habit. Three new 30-second TV spots, that began airing on April 11, feature people who are contemplating quitting smoking but struggling with the decision. These people are seen receiving encouragement from others who hand them written messages that read, “I did it. You can, too.”

Utah SAFE KIDS Week 2005

April 29, 2005 - The Utah SAFE KIDS Coalition called on Utah parents to get rid of dangerous children's items like old cribs, playpens and baby walkers. The theme of SAFE KIDS Week 2005 was “Follow the Leader - Safety Begins With You.” Utah coalitions urged parents to check their homes for cribs and playpens that can trap and strangle children, wheeled baby walkers that can tumble down stairs and many other items that can be deadly for children.

New Data Available on Utahns who Lacked Health Insurance Coverage

April 2005 - The Office of Public Health Assessment has release numbers from the Utah Health Status Survey on Utahns without health insurance. The data was released just in time for a Health Insurance Summit that was sponsored by the UDOH. This data can be found at: <http://health.utah.gov/opha/publications/EstNumPercentUninsured.pdf>

Health Status Survey Brief: Chronic Medical Conditions

April 2005 - The first “Brief” style report from the now ongoing Utah Health Status Survey data collection has been published. The Brief contained data on Utahns suffering from chronic diseases such as diabetes, arthritis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), and asthma. The publication can be found on the Web at: http://health.utah.gov/opha/publications/hssbriefs/HSS_Brief_ChronicMedCond.pdf

EMS Week Celebrated - Lifesaving Emergency Medical Professionals Honored

May 15-21, 2005 – Governor Jon Huntsman, Jr. honored the state's finest EMS professionals during the 2005 EMS Awards Ceremony that was held in conjunction with the celebration of National Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week 2005. The EMS professionals were recognized for their outstanding service and contributions along with welcoming the patients and their families whose lives were influenced by the lifesaving actions of the award recipients.

The TRUTH Advertising Contest Recognizes 52 Utah Youth for Creative Anti-tobacco Ads

May 20, 2005 - The winners of the eighth annual TRUTH from Youth Anti-tobacco Advertising Contest were announced during an awards ceremony at The Gateway Union Pacific Depot on May 20, 2005. Fifty-two Utah youth received recognition, awards and cash prizes for their

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original ads. More than 6,483 youth participated this year in the statewide advertising contest presented by the Utah Department of Health (UDOH).

Check Your Health Winners Recognized

May 31, 2005 - Check Your Health and the Utah Summer Games congratulated the winners for the 2005 Get Active Utah! Fitness Challenge. Awards were handed out at the Utah Summer Games Opening Ceremonies on June 16, 2005.

The winners include:

- Communities:
 - Large city - West Valley City
 - Medium city - Cedar City
 - Small city - Price
- School - Heber Valley Elementary
- Group - SUU Education
- Individual - Wendy Busenbark - Roosevelt, Utah
- 100-mile walkers - 609
- Total miles logged January 1 to May 31, 2005 = 2,062,633
- 2175 total participants signed up between January 1 and April 30, 2005.

Special recognition was extended to the Girl Scouts of Utah, whose 77 participants logged 17,215 miles – four times their goal of walking round trip from Salt Lake City to Savannah, GA, or 4,250 miles.

Spot the Tot Child Safety Campaign Launched

May 2005 - The UDOH Violence and Injury Prevention Program (VIPP) joined forces with Primary Children's Medical Center to develop the "Spot the Tot" child safety campaign. Alarmed by an increase in the number of children hurt and killed when run over in driveways and parking lots, the agencies launched the program in early May. Spot the Tot encourages drivers to check around their vehicles for young children before pulling out of a driveway or parking space.

Health Status by Race and Ethnicity Report Published

May 2005 - The Health Status by Race and Ethnicity report portrays important health disparities by race and ethnicity. The report is intended to serve as a guide for UDOH programs, Utah's Ethnic Health Advisory Committee, and others with an interest in reducing health disparities, so that they may make evidence-based decisions on their priorities and future activities aimed at improving health status in Utah populations. The report can be found on the Web at: <http://health.utah.gov/opha/publications/raceeth05/RaceEth05.htm>

Utah Public Health Laboratory Assists The CDC

May 2005 - In response to an increase in infections at the Clearfield Job Corps, The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) launched a study to determine the carrier rates of infection in members of the Job Corps student body. The Public Health Laboratory, the Office of Epidemiology, and the Davis County Health Department participated, culturing and screening over 600 students for neisseria meningitidis. A follow-up comparison was done on over 100 students at the Weber Basin Job Corps. This event received local media coverage and the results of the study will be published in *Morbidity and Mortality*, a publication of CDC.

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New Baby Your Baby Health keepsake Hits the Streets

June 1, 2005 - The "New" Baby Your Baby Health Keepsake, with introduction letters from Mrs. Huntsman and Dr. Sundwall, hit the streets June 1. The Keepsake's fresh, new look and information for parents on pregnancy and child care for the first 6 years of life makes it a popular title. The keepsake is given to all pregnant women in Utah free of charge.

Report on Aging in Utah Released by Bureau of Health Promotion

June 7, 2005 – The Bureau of Health Promotion released the report, “Aging and Health in Utah: Implications for Public Health.” The report focuses on chronic diseases, leading causes of death, access to health care, and health-related quality of life issues, among Utahns age 55 and over. The report also includes recommendations to meet the challenges of this growing population. Available on the Web at: http://health.utah.gov/cfhs/bhp/Aging_Report_April05.pdf

Office of Vital Records and Statistics Increases Electronic Birth Records

June 9, 2005 - Births occurring in 1956 have been keyed by the Vital Records data entry staff and are now available for issuance. Birth records now available in electronic format include 1956-1969, and 1975 to present. In addition, Utah county births from 1882-1955, 1960-1961 and 1970-1974 are available.

Bike Law Enforcers Take to Utah Roads to Educate Riders and Motorists

June 9, 2005 - The UDOH has launched a pilot project to teach motorists and bicyclists how to “share the road” safely. Partnering with the Utah Departments of Transportation and Public Safety, UDOH secured grant funds to pay police officers overtime to patrol Utah streets looking for drivers and cyclists who break the law. Each year some 900 Utah cyclists are badly injured and six are killed in crashes with motor vehicles. For the years 1994-2003, Utah ranked highest in the nation for bicyclist deaths.

2004 Health Status Survey Data added to IBIS Query System

June 2005 - The Utah Health Status Survey provides information on a variety of topics related to health status and health care access at statewide and health district levels. The IBIS Query System allows users to query public health data sets directly. Utah Health Status Survey information is intended primarily for public health program managers, administrators, and other health care professionals in the public and private health care sectors, and may also be of interest to anyone wishing to inform themselves on the current health status of Utahns. Access to the new HSS data can be found on the Web at:

http://ibis.health.utah.gov/Query?request=SHOW_SELECTION&name=hss/HSSSelection

Race/Ethnicity Measures Added to Population Estimates on the IBIS Query System

June 2005 - Population estimates are needed to calculate rates for measures of health. Providing population estimates by race and ethnicity will allow IBIS users to further examine the health status among racial and ethnic minorities. Access to the population query module can be found on the Web at:

http://ibis.health.utah.gov/Query?request=SHOW_SELECTION&name=pop/PopSelection

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2003 PRAMS Data Added to IBIS Query System

June 2005 - PRAMS (Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System) is a survey of new mothers asking about their pregnancy and new baby. The IBIS Query System allows users to query public health data sets directly. PRAMS provides data not available from other sources about pregnancy and the first few months after birth. The information can be used to help improve the health of Utah mothers and infants, develop health programs and policies, help health care workers improve care, and make better use of health resources. Access to the new PRAMS data can be found on the Web at:

http://ibis.health.utah.gov/Query?request=SHOW_SELECTION&name=prams/PRAMSSelection

2004 BRFSS Data Added to IBIS Query System

June 2005 - The BRFSS collects uniform, state-specific data on preventive health practices and risk behaviors that are linked to chronic diseases, injuries, and preventable infectious diseases in the adult population. The IBIS Query System allows users to query public health data sets directly. BRFSS data reflect health behaviors determining individual and population risk of major disease, such as heart disease, stroke, cancer and diabetes. Access to the new BRFSS data can be found on the Web at:

http://ibis.health.utah.gov/Query?request=SHOW_SELECTION&name=brfss/BRFSSSelection